

THE WASHINGTON TIMES.

FRANK A. MUNSEY.

A Step Forward.

In ratifying the new Hay-Pauncefote Treaty, the United States Senate has been conspicuously American. That is what the people demanded. The isthmian canal is the next logical step toward the development of insular facilities. And it is likely to prove a gigantic factor in the settlement of the problems that have followed the development of the faithful policy of expansion, a policy that was as inescapable from the American viewpoint as the policy of progress.

While there are lesser obstacles to the piercing of the isthmus, it is believed that the only real stumbling block has been demolished. The completion of arrangements for territorial privileges and legislation for the actual work of digging the ditch will require time. But the period for preliminaries should be cut down to the minimum.

Already grave doubts have been expressed in some quarters as to whether the isthmian canal will pay. These doubts seem to be premature. It may require half a century to tell. There is every reason to have confidence in the optimistic opinion that it will pay in progress and prestige, if not at once in pennies.

There is no system or precedent large enough to successfully measure in dollars the result of a giant enterprise in a section of the world which is just viewing the rosy dawn of its development.

May Do Injustice.

Washington electricians have been aroused to opposition against Senate bill No. 1466, introduced by Mr. McMillan. The stated object of the measure is to regulate electrical wiring in the District. It requires that contractors and employees shall pass an examination before a board to be appointed, and, upon passing themselves competent, shall pay an annual fee for the privilege of following their pursuit. The bill further provides a penalty for all owners of buildings who knowingly employ an unlicensed electrician.

It is presumed that the purpose of this proposed law is to safeguard the community against fire caused by defective wiring. Theoretically, many mysterious blazes have been due to leakage of electrical current.

Upon superficial consideration, the Senate bill appears to be a commendable one. The city, beyond question, has a right to demand protection against bungling work which may carry with it the menace of a disastrous conflagration.

Whether it is fully just that men who have for years carried on a trade, and are fitted through long experience to continue it, should be compelled to undergo a purely technical and theoretical ordeal is another question. Some of these men may be thoroughly competent for their work, yet unable to demonstrate it by the limited means of pen or word of mouth.

This phase of the matter will bear full consideration. Perhaps some modification will prevent grievous injustice.

England's Moses.

England's growing crisis has forced Lord Rosebery back into politics because the ex-Premier is a patriot. His speech at Chesterfield was a revelation. The world had almost begun to believe that there was no man in Great Britain, no man capable of heroic leadership, who realized the gravity of the situation.

Rosebery's speech must have put the Conservatives on the rack of agony, for he was spectacularly candid. The truth was repeatedly thrust home, though it reopened old wounds and drew blood. But, though every bluish on the escautcheon was pointed out as with a finelined and described with a bluntness calculated to make even the ossified adherents of old-fogyism wince, the world is more inclined to be charitable with Great Britain today than it was before Rosebery stepped to the front.

Rosebery wants unity and reform. He seeks to cure the corruption in English government by purifying the four-in-hand. He opposes the continued pursuit of policies known to be ruinous on the excuse that there can be no retreat or compromise after the first steps have been taken. He desires that his country cultivate the friendship of nations and cease doing those blind things which threaten universal hatred and complete isolation.

Rosebery has shown his countrymen the way to the Promised Land. It remains to be seen whether they will let him lead them thither.

Mr. Gillette's Reply.

For a long time the British critic has been singing his swansong of American degeneracy and has run the gamut from locomotives to literature and from steel to the stage. It is with gratification, therefore, that his countrymen will read of William Gillette's speech at the dinner of the Old Players' Club, in London. The brainy play-right and actor took the opportunity to reply to the innuendo directed at the drama in the United States, making some apt comparisons with the more venerable but scarcely superior histrionism of the mother country.

Mr. Gillette's experience on both sides of the Atlantic makes him especially capable of just and equitable comparison. He himself is too keen and conscientious a critic to allow patriotism alone to influence his judgment.

He remarked to our British kinsmen that if the American stage was

going to the dogs, it was going in pretty good company. There was an undertone of irony in his address for the defense which will doubtless be more fully appreciated by the English critics a year or so hence.

Wanted—A Solomon.

The Poindexter case is peculiarly pathetic. James Poindexter was sent to the workhouse for violating an ex-cuse law. He sold a friend some whiskey from a bottle kept in his own house. The sale was made on Sunday morning. The violation was a technical one, so far as known.

Poindexter's incarceration may have been just. But when he went to the workhouse, a wife and four children became the victims. The woman has petitioned the Commissioners for a pardon. In her prayer she recites that she and her little ones are destitute. They have no one to temper the blasts of winter. They are without fuel and meagerly provided for in the way of clothing.

The mother prays that the man in the workhouse be permitted to go free because his family needs the support of his labor. The Commissioners are touched by the appeal. They regret, however, that they are powerless to grant the petition.

At times red tape is most obnoxious. It is in cases of this kind that formality excites disgust, and the Circumlocution Office of Dickens is recalled as a conspicuous parallel.

Because Poindexter has incurred the penalty of the law is no reason why a woman and four children should suffer from cold and hunger.

The White House is not a great distance from the District Building. If the Commissioners' hearts are touched by the justice of the appeal, and their hands are bound, the President himself should be acquainted with the case. We are inclined to believe that Mr. Roosevelt will act the Solomon.

What has become of the little china mug marked "For a Good Child," and the children who used to get them for Christmas?

Professor Garner claims to have taught a chimpanzee two English words; and it is to be hoped that they are not the kind taught fresh-cut parrots.

The Reverend Gilbert Reid seems to be bent on preaching to the world the Gospel of Love.

Apparently Mr. Carnegie was quite ready to put his trust in Uncle Sam, if Uncle Sam had been prepared for it.

Life would be less complex, but also less amusing, if all the gentlemen who ought to commit political harlequin would do it.

Somebody wants to know what the marauders are going to eat when they are settled in their island colony. The chances are that they will eat their words; and that will take a good while.

Miss Elsie De Wolfe claims that her dog is a transmigrated soul; and there are some dogs whose souls seem to have migrated from a place which is better not mentioned.

Perhaps some wise person will claim that the recent epidemic of sensations in the District is due to a sun spot; but if there is anything in this, somebody ought to go up there with soap and a brush.

A snake in New York recently swallowed an iguana; and this is about as uncomfortable a performance as will be made by one faction of the Democratic party to assuilate the other faction.

If the weather is going to continue to turn southerly it may be well to get straw hats and parasols ready for the next lightning change.

Mr. Roosevelt seems to have left the strenuous life to his opponents. And thus far they haven't made much of a success of it.

Rosebery's dose is a bitter one for some Englishmen, and they are already making wry faces.

CURRENT PRESS COMMENT.

In Every Country.

Boston Journal—The true patriot is a true Christian.

Horror of the Boer War.

Nashville American—Another terrible engagement is reported from South Africa. One Boer lost a wife of whom, another, a child, while the English general's fiancée was severely, if not fatally, wounded.

The Strenuous Life.

Buffalo Express—An Oregon married pair found employment within two hours by parading the streets of Syracuse wearing placards saying that they wanted work. But there will still be people who prefer to sit down under placards, and complain about the placards.

When a Woman Will, She Will.

St. Louis Star—A matrimonial club at Broken composed wholly of women, has broken up an anti-matrimonial club, composed wholly of men. Each woman selected a member and married him.

An Unfailing Indication.

Detroit Free Press—The work of the "comic artists" in the Sunday newspapers can always be detected by the fact that the pictures are not comic and the men that draw them are not artists.

Preparing for the Millennium.

Boston Herald—How virtuous New York is getting to be! It looks as if the expiring municipal administration were liberally overlooking the enforcement of goodness in the metropolis in order to give the people a swift foretaste of the real thing.

UNDER THE CAPITOL'S DOME.

Senator James K. Jones, the Democratic national chairman and chairman of the Democratic Senatorial caucus, is measurably indignant at the statement which has been given currency to the effect that his recent election to the latter position was temporary only, and that some other Senator would be the choice of the caucus as its permanent presiding officer. He says that there is literally no truth in the statement; that the caucus has the power at any time to change its chairman, but that there is such a desire in this instance it has yet to make itself manifest, and that the election in his case was as much a permanent one as such elections ever are. Inasmuch as the Senator is in full possession of the minority conference room by virtue of his chairmanship, his statement seems to dispose of the matter completely and leave nothing more to be said.

When the House of Representatives is in Committee of the Whole for the discussion of public measures much latitude of debate is usually allowed, and the speeches of members frequently have but a remote bearing, if any, upon the provisions of the bill under consideration. The debate of the bill temporarily to provide revenue for the Philippine Islands and for other cognate purposes, as developed yesterday, was no exception to the rule, although, in general, the speeches of the members were directed to the bill, these are the continuance in force of the revenue law enacted by the Taft Commission, and the application to the islands of the provisions of the Dingley tariff.

In stating the scope and purpose of the measure, Mr. Payne, the Republican floor leader, said it was the purpose of the recent Supreme Court decision, holding that the islands are no longer foreign territory, and that consequently the Dingley tariff does not apply to goods imported from them, but, beyond this, his speech was mainly an exposition of the character of the Taft government, what it is doing for the improvement of Philippine conditions, and what it is hoped may be accomplished in the future. It can hardly be said that either Mr. Payne or General Grosvenor, who spoke out on the same side, these men have light upon the subject of the bill, the proposed legislation, and probably neither thought it necessary to do so. Both argued strongly that the measure was exceedingly liberal to the Philippines, in that the money collected under the Taft Commission revenue law were to be covered into the treasury of the Philippine Islands, to be used locally for their benefit. But neither gentleman said anything to the necessity, upon the grounds of public policy, for separate tariff regulations, which, from their point of view, would seem to be the main reason underlying the legislation proposed.

It is, however, not speeches of this kind that Republican leaders were not quite satisfied in some essential particulars. It must be conceded that the arguments of their opponents also failed squarely to meet the issue. The Democratic contention was that the islands ought to be absolutely free and independent. The great salient fact which stares them in the face is that the islands are not free and independent, but under the sovereignty of the United States. Upon that point the Supreme Court seems to be a unit. If the sovereignty of the United States attaches, it is clear that the province of Congress to legislate for the territory, and the real question is what the legislation should be.

To a Hatterer, it is clear that the best position the Democrats could have taken would have been to argue that the "Constitution follows the flag." In this they would have had the support of many members of the Supreme Court, but when they placed themselves upon the ground simply that the islands ought to be free, they were indulging in mere abstractions, and firing their shot into the air. Still, it was hard for them to do anything else, for a political, in contradiction to a legal proposition, they were unwilling to argue the question of the islands, as well as that the islands are held by the United States in full sovereignty.

This made their proposition a difficult one, and detracted much from the force of the speeches. It is clear that the Democrats and the Republicans, which in some respects were admirable.

Yesterday there was much interest manifested in congressional circles in the ratification of the canal treaty with England, which took place on Monday. A general feeling of pleasure was expressed at the near approach to unanimity in the vote, and the result was regarded as a marked diplomatic triumph for Secretary Hay. At the same time the fact is recognized that the nearly solid vote in favor of ratification does not in any sense fairly represent the opinion of the Senate as a body respecting some of the provisions of the treaty.

Many voted for it who would have had very different views if they could. This is true of Republicans as well as Democrats. But most of them recognized the fact that it takes two to make a bargain, and that Great Britain necessarily had something to say in the matter. In the terms of the compact, it is clear, though, that in England the treaty is regarded as a complete surrender by the British Government, and the critics of the Senate are taken to indicate that upon the whole we have no reason to be dissatisfied. With many Senators the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, the chief inducement for their affirmative votes. This old pact was the only legal ground upon which any European State could object to the United States' jurisdiction and sovereignty in Central America. The mere abrogation of that treaty would, in itself, have left us with an absolute free hand in that quarter. As England is concerned, and the Senators voting to ratify do not believe that any of the neutrality provisions will seriously hamper us in the event of war. Treaties are designed to meet and cover peaceful conditions. Should a war break out between the United States and Great Britain, all treaties, at least, be suspended, while other nations would be in no wise concerned. Thus it is argued, and probably it is true. Nor is it deemed that at any time England would seriously object to our making due provision for the defense of the waterway.

FOREIGN TOPICS.

Another Famous Necklace. The German Empress has the finest pearl necklace in existence. It contains three world-famous necklaces. One of them formerly belonged to the ex-Queen of Naples and another adorned the image of the Virgin of Atlixat. The entire necklace is said to be worth \$500,000.

Jokai's Family Quarrels. Maurice Jokai, the famous Hungarian novelist, who recently married a young wife to the intense disgust of his family, has brought action against his daughter, the wife of the great Hungarian painter, Arpad de Freesty, for removing a wreath the novelist had placed on the grave of his first wife, Rosa Lokoboth.

John Bull's Big Cockerbock. A statistician estimates that Great Britain is so much more wealthy than France that if the two had to fight to a finish Great Britain could spend \$100,000,000 for every \$2,000,000 spent by her rival.

IN SOCIETY.

Second in importance to the Kubelik concert yesterday afternoon was the programme of recitations given by Miss Elene Foster, of Boston, in the drawing room of Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Walcott, of 2112 S Street.

The numbers included several dialect sketches, followed by selections from Eugene Field. Miss Foster will give another recital on Friday afternoon at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Sillson Hutchins.

Another fashionable happening of yesterday afternoon was the private view of the Powell paintings in the home of the Corcoran Gallery of Art. The exhibition is under the patronage of Mrs. J. B. Henderson, and in addition to the work of Mr. Powell there were portraits by Benjamin Constant, the Princess Lovell, and M. Markovsky, who is now engaged upon a portrait of the Countess Cassini.

Mrs. Enoch Tipton has issued invitations for a fancy dress dance Monday, December 30.

Admiral Melville was the guest of honor at a dinner given for him Monday night at the New Willard by Dr. and Mrs. William May.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira E. Cole, of 715 Eigh Street northeast, celebrated the fortieth anniversary of their marriage by gathering their children and grandchildren about them to do honor to the event.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Cole and family, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Gates and family, Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Van Doren and family, Miss Nettie E. Cole, Mr. Arthur J. Cole, Miss Jennie Helen Graham, and Miss Mattie Anthony.

The Baroness Hengelmüller, wife of the Austrian Minister, will give her first regular reception Saturday evening, December 21.

She will continue her weekly receptions each Saturday following throughout the season.

The French Ambassador, M. Jules Cambon, will sail from Havre on December 21. He will come directly to Washington on his arrival.

Mrs. Hackett, wife of the ex-Assistant Secretary of the Navy, will receive this afternoon, but in future will be at home to her friends on Fridays.

The third meeting of the Blue and Grey Euchre Club was held December 11 at the home of Miss Emma Tibbets. The prizes were captured by Mr. W. Brearley and Miss M. Yeager. The participants were the Misses H. Lockwood, M. Yeager, E. Girouard, A. Girouard, F. Girouard, N. Lowe, C. Lowe, L. Farrow, F. Ball, E. Tibbets, and Mrs. Tibbets, and Messrs. E. L. Wright, W. H. Collins, A. B. Smith, Jr., W. Brearley, J. D. Entwistle, M. Tibbets, C. Muller, E. D. Royster, and H. Kane.

Mrs. Thomas C. Anderson, wife of Justice Anderson, will be at home at the Portland Mansions in January.

Miss Grace Day, who was one of the debutantes of last year, will spend this winter also with her brother-in-law and sister, Senator and Mrs. Martin, of Virginia.

Mrs. Terry, wife of the commandant of the navy yard, and Miss Terry entertained a large number of friends at a tea on Monday afternoon from 4 to 7 o'clock. The ladies who assisted in dispensing the hospitalities of a very delightful afternoon were Mrs. Hackett, wife of the ex-Assistant Secretary of the Navy; Mrs. Roe, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Southard, Mrs. Elms, Mrs. Gille, Mrs. Wood, Miss Wallace, Miss Sapie, Miss Logan, Miss Miller, of Baltimore, and the Misses Porter, of Annapolis.

Mrs. J. Dorman Steele, of Elmira, has arrived in Washington to be the guest of Mrs. David Jayne Hill for the season.

At the dinner given by the Secretary of Agriculture on Monday evening, the guests were the Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Hillecock, Lieutenant General and Mrs. Miles, Senator and Mrs. Elkins, Senator and Mrs. Doolittle, Colonel and Mrs. Bingham, Solicitor General and Mrs. Richards, Miss Phelps, and Mr. Jasper Wilson.

Mrs. Robert Porter, of Vermont Avenue, gave a tea yesterday afternoon to introduce her debutante daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Henry Rider announce the marriage of their daughter, Rosebelle Stanford, to Mr. Joseph Edson, on Monday, December 16, Mr. and Mrs. Edson will reside in Chicago.

Baron Hergmo, of the German Embassy, will soon sail for his native land, will give a dinner by his friends this evening at the Metropolitan Club.

Mrs. David Alder, of Pittsburg, Pa., is visiting her parents, Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Abel, 221 K Street northwest, at home Sunday.

Dr. and Mrs. E. Powell Frazer have taken apartments at the Pabellon, where they are permanently located.

Miss Mabel Stier, of this city, will be married this evening to Mr. Frank Goodwin, of Seattle, Wash. The wedding will take place at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Eugene Byrnes, 235 Thirteenth Street.

The United States Ambassador to Great Britain and Mrs. Chase, who have been making a short visit to this city, were entertained at a dinner of twenty-four covers last night by Mr. and Mrs. Dimick, of New York.

Mrs. J. Carr, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Mrs. J. Ollendoff, of New York City, are visiting their brother, Mr. H. Kronheimer, of 524 L Street northwest.

Sale for Home for Incubables. For what has been often called the "worst of charities" the time for incubables—Miss E. D. Boehl held a sale last night at her home, 1214 Thirteenth Street northwest. It was an auction of fancy articles which were donated by many society women who are interested in the cause of incubables. After the auction, from which a goodly sum was realized, the donors served supper.

Veterans Elect Officers. The following officers were elected at a meeting of G. J. M. Soldiers' Garrison, No. 1, Monday evening: Commander, W. M. Champion; Senior Vice Commander, Leon Chabot; Junior Vice Commander, Emil Walter; Adjutant, V. H. Pinckney; Quartermaster, J. W. Howell; Secretary, L. J. McElch; Paymaster, Thomas Morris; Surgeon, Dr. F. DeBussche; Officer of the Day, J. G. Maynard; Officer of the Guard, Samuel T. Thompson; Officer of the Watch, W. H. Hines; Executive Committee, C. J. Weber, John Kelly, A. Beitzheimer.

The next meeting will be held with the Ladies' Auxiliary Corps, when the new officers will be inducted. The meeting will be held at the Scottish Rite Hall, 1097 G Street northwest, at 7:30 o'clock. It will be conducted by Miss Deane and Mr. H. G. Critchfield.

DANISH ISLAND PROTOCOL.

Document of Sale Ready for Signature of King Christian.

It was authoritatively asserted at the State Department yesterday that no definite agreement had yet been reached with Denmark as to the purchase by this country of the Danish West Indies.

Negotiations, it was admitted, were in progress, as they had been ever since 1871, and perhaps showed more encouraging development now than ever before.

It is understood, however, that terms agreeable to both sides have been reached, and that a protocol containing them has been submitted to King Christian and, as soon as he affixes his signature, the document will be submitted to the Senate.

No admission as to the price to be paid is obtainable, but it is said by trustworthy people that \$5,000,000 is very near the cost of purchase of the islands and the islanders will be left to action by Congress.

INTEREST IN BOER CAUSE.

Members of the German Concordia Church sign petition to Congress.

A petition urging Congress to adopt a resolution expressing sympathy for the Boers and that it be communicated by the President to the Government of Great Britain was signed by members and friends of the German Concordia Church, Twentieth and G Streets, last evening. It will be forwarded to Congress with petitions which are now being circulated in all parts of the country for the same purpose.

A musical and literary entertainment had been arranged by the members of the congregation for the purpose of raising money to relieve the women and children of the Boers, who are kept in concentration camps in South Africa, and among whom the sick and death rate has assumed appalling proportions.

The chapel was crowded with sympathizers of the Boers, and the proceeds of the entertainment have been placed in charge by Mrs. Mitchell, who will forward them to an agent of the church at Cape Town.

General Pearson, representative in this country of the South African Republic, was present and made a short address in which he set forth in graphic language the horrible death rate which prevails among the women and children of the Boers in the British concentration camps. He said that the total deaths in the last six months among the women and children were 12,441, of which the total of men killed of the Boer army since the war began amounts to a little over 4,000.

"If your country had not exported horses and mules to South Africa to be used in warfare against the Boers, the war could have been ended long ago," said General Pearson. "It is ridiculous for the British to say we have only 6,000 or 7,000 men in the field. It is untrue when they say that we do not carry out our civil war; we have 32,000 men in the field, and they are all fighters and will lay down their lives for liberty and the independence of the South African Republic."

MR. BECK'S "POSSUM" DINNER.

Assistant Attorney General Entertains Official Conference.

Assistant Attorney General Beck of the Department of Justice gave a "possum" dinner at Harvey's last night to a number of gentlemen in public life, including many of his official friends. The menu called for a great many more things than possum, notably sea food, and fragrant Rhine wines, France.

A successful attempt at originality had been made in decorating the table. As a centerpiece, covering the glossy napery stood a "possum" of the most realistic kind, a litter of little ones, snuggled in banks of red holly.

From the alpha of the Blue Points to the omega of the dome, the spread was dazzlingly epicurean.

With the coffee and cigars entered the perils of jest and badinage of story, and the less of some cracking good story tellers were stretched under the table.

Those present were James M. Wright, marshal Supreme Court; W. B. Ridsley, Controller of Currency; John E. Wilkie, Chief of the Secret Service; P. C. Knox, Attorney General; John K. Richards, Solicitor General; Henry M. Hoyt, Assistant Attorney General; G. B. Thompson, Assistant Attorney General; John Q. Thompson, Assistant Attorney General; Willis Van Devanter, Assistant Attorney General; Maurice D. O'Connell, Solicitor General of the Treasury; Charles C. Long, Private Secretary to the Attorney General; Louis A. Bralt, W. W. Wilbur, M. Knox, H. L. Burnett, James W. Becker, John M. Camp, W. H. C. Evans, Commissioner of Penitentiaries, J. H. Bachelder.

SEVERE ON COUNTERFEITERS.

Secretary Gage Proposes Extra Punishment for Repeated Offenses.

Secretary Gage has sent to Congress a draft of a bill providing additional punishments upon second or other convictions under the laws against counterfeiting.

"Of the 600 cases handled annually," he says, "of crimes of counterfeiting, nearly 50 per cent are those of persons previously convicted of similar offenses." Secretary Gage's bill imposes the maximum penalty on second conviction, five years' imprisonment and a twenty-five years' sentence on the fourth conviction.

JUDGE COX RESIGNS DEANSHIP.

Charles W. Needham Becomes Head of Columbian Law School.

Judge Walter S. Cox, dean of the Columbian law school, has tendered his resignation. At a meeting of the faculty held on Saturday it was accepted. Charles W. Needham, LL. D., was named as his successor, subject to the approval of the board of trustees at their January meeting.

Judge Cox has been connected with the institution for twenty-eight years. The faculty passed a resolution expressing regret at the departure of the dean, and gave to severing his connection with the law school in ill health.

Dean Needham presented a report at the Saturday meeting, and during the changes which have taken place in the law school in the past four years.

Bill to Label Shoddy.

Representative Grosvenor of Ohio introduced a bill in the House yesterday providing that goods of mixed wool and cotton shall be labeled and the proportion of each ingredient given. The object of this bill is to place shoddy on the same footing as goods with shoddy-garment, but no taxes are to be imposed on it.

Extension of Contracts.

The District Commissioners yesterday authorized the extension of contracts for public works as follows: Contract No. 229, with Dunn's Mountain Granite Quarry, for furnishing granite curbing, sixty days; contract No. 260, with James Nolan & Co., for repairing and changing plumbing in the Addition and Curtis School buildings, January 18, 1902, without penalty or cost of inspection.

Parliamentary Class.

The parliamentary class, daughters of the American Revolution, will be organized 1000 evening at the Scottish Rite Hall, 1097 G Street northwest, at 7:30 o'clock. It will be conducted by Miss Deane and Mr. H. G. Critchfield.

MAY SELL ESTATES IN TRUST.

Bill Authorizing Procedure When All Parties Are Agreed.

Senator Martin has introduced a bill authorizing the District Supreme Court to decree the sale or lease of land in which "one or more persons are entitled to an estate for life or years, or to an estate in fee simple, conditional, base, or qualified fee, or any particular limited or conditional estate in lands, and any person or persons are entitled to a remainder or remainders, vested or contingent, or an interest, vested or contingent, in the same land, on application of any of the parties in interest."

The court may, if all the parties in being are parties to the proceeding, decree a sale or lease thereof if it shall appear to be advantageous to the parties concerned, and shall direct the investment of the proceeds of sale or the limitations of the reversion and rent, as the case may be, so as to insure in like manner as by the original grant to the use of the same parties who would be entitled to the land sold or leased.

All such decrees shall bind all persons who claim or may claim any interest in said land under any of the parties to said decree, or under any person from whom any of the parties to such decree claim or from or under or by the original deed or will by which such particular, limited, or conditional estates, with remainders or executory devises, were created."

KING OF SIAM NOT COMING.

Crown Prince Intended Making Trip, But May Not Do So.

Senator Frye of Maine introduced a bill yesterday authorizing the Government to extend an invitation to the King of Siam to be the guest of the United States during his visit to this country, and providing for an appropriation of such sum as may be needed to pay the expenses of his entertainment.

The bill was introduced at the request of the State Department, official notification having been received a few days ago from United States Consul Hamilton King, at Bangkok, that His Majesty the King of Siam was about to pay a royal visit to the United States.

It turns out, however, that somebody's clerk erred in drawing up the bill, and it now develops that it is not altogether certain that the Prince will make the trip. A careful reading of Consul King's despatch shows that it says he "may" come. Perhaps the fact that the name "King" was signed to the despatch led to the mistake of putting the father into Senator Frye's bill instead of the son.

In connection with this incident it is interesting to note that it is customary for this Government to invite any crown prince who may visit the United States, or crown prince either, to be the guest of the nation, and accept the best free of charge.

WHY WASHINGTON WON.

Advantages of Holding National G. A. R. Encampment Here.

Mr. Israel W. Stone, commander of the Department of the Potomac, G. A. R.; Mr. Harry Buckley, secretary Washington Business Men's Association, and Mr. S. R. Hoge, representing the railroad interests of the city, returned last evening from Chicago, where they successfully presented the claims of Washington before the executive council of administration, G. A. R., which is charged with determining the place of holding the annual encampments.

One advantage Washington offered was the railroad rate of one cent per mile in the territory of the Central Pacific Association, making an average of about one and one-half cents per mile.

Another thing which led to the selection of Washington is the great sentiment in favor of the Capital City throughout the country. The old soldiers